

- b. Notwithstanding the agencies and boards established in this chapter, the commission may establish independent advisory groups, committees or commissions to make recommendations on any development issue directly to the commission.

(b) *Commission operation.* Unless otherwise specifically provided, the commission shall follow requirements for voting and other matters as set forth in this chapter, the Sumter County Code, Florida Statutes and general law.

(Ord. No. 96-23, § 9, 12-16-96)

Sec. 13-203. Zoning and adjustment board.

(a) *Establishment and purpose.* There is hereby established, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 163, F.S., a zoning and adjustment board (herein referred to as ZAB) whose principle functions shall be as specified in subsection (b).

(b) *Duties and authority.* The ZAB's duties and authority shall be as follows:

(1) *Local planning.* To sit as the local planning agency in performing the following duties:

- a. Conduct studies and develop recommendations to the commission concerning goals, objectives and policies related to comprehensive planning for the growth, development and re-development of the county.
- b. Conduct studies and develop recommendations to the commission concerning policies, ordinances, administrative procedures, and other means for carrying out planning in a coordinated and efficient manner.

(2) *Zoning and adjustments.*

- a. To sit as the zoning board and hold public hearings for the purpose of recommending to the commission on applications for re-zoning or other amendments to this chapter.
- b. To sit as an adjustment board and hold public hearings for the following purposes:
 - 1. To recommend or approve/disapprove applications for special, conditional and temporary use permits, all as specified in Table 13-104A.
 - 2. To approve/disapprove applications for variances, as specified in section 13-237.

(3) *Development policies.* To review development regulations, policies and problems, and make recommendations to the commission on amendments to this chapter.

(4) *Other.* To perform any other related duties assigned by the commission.

(c) *Membership.*

(1) *Appointment.* The ZAB shall consist of eleven (11) regular members and two (2) alternate members, appointed by the commission. Each member shall be a resident of Sumter County and meet all other appointee requirements established by the commission. No more than three (3) regular members may represent any one (1)

occupation, business interest or profession, and no member shall be a paid or elected official of Sumter County or any municipality located therein. There shall be two (2) regular members appointed from and representing each county commission district and one (1) regular member and two (2) alternate members (alternate No. 1 and alternate No. 2) appointed at large.

(2) *Terms.*

- a. The terms of members representing county commission districts shall run concurrently with the term of the commissioner representing that district. The term of the regular member appointed at large shall run concurrently with commission districts 1, 3 and 5 and the terms of the two alternate members shall run concurrently with commission districts 2 and 4. Members may continue to serve until their successors have been appointed and may be appointed to successive terms without limitation. Board members serve at the pleasure of the commission and may be removed by action of the majority of same. Failure to attend hearings, as prescribed in the commission's appointment policy, or any other good cause related to performance or qualifications are grounds for dismissal. A member who ceases to be a resident of Sumter County shall be automatically dismissed.
- b. Vacancies occurring during the unexpired term of a member shall be filled within thirty (30) days after the vacancy occurs.

(3) *Organization.* At its initial meeting and at its first meeting in each year thereafter, the ZAB shall elect, by majority vote of its membership, one of its members to serve as chairman and preside over the board's meetings, and one member to serve as vice-chairman, except that both offices shall not be held by members representing the same commission district. Those persons so elected shall serve for terms of one (1) year. Vacancies in these offices may be filled for the unexpired terms only, by majority vote of the membership. The chairman and vice-chairman may take part in all deliberations and shall vote on all issues, unless prohibited by law. The director shall serve as secretary to the ZAB.

(4) *Advisory members or committees.* As necessary, the commission may appoint one or more individuals or committees to assist the ZAB in performing its planning and zoning responsibilities with respect to a particular subject area. Individuals and members of such advisory committees shall sit as nonvoting members on the ZAB when such issues are being considered and lend their talents, energies, and expertise to it. However, all formal recommendations and other actions to the commission shall be made by the ZAB.

(d) *Meetings.*

- (1) *Schedule.* The ZAB shall establish a regular meeting schedule and shall meet frequently enough to expeditiously perform its duties in conformity with public notice and other applicable laws.

- (2) *Conduct.* All ZAB meetings shall be open to the public and conducted in accordance with the provisions set forth in this chapter. The ZAB shall adopt rules and regulations governing its procedures and operations not inconsistent with those provisions and Florida law.
- (3) *Record.* All actions of the ZAB shall be public record. All meetings shall be audio-recorded and written minutes shall be prepared of all proceedings. The director shall keep a properly indexed record of its actions, which shall be a public record.
- (4) *Joint meetings.* The ZAB and the commission may, if they so desire, hold combined public hearings and meetings on any application or other matters. Such combined meetings shall not prevent the ZAB and/or the commission from holding additional hearings if deemed necessary.

(e) *Quorum and voting.*

- (1) *Quorum.* A quorum for the ZAB shall consist of a majority of the total regular positions on the Board. A quorum is necessary for any official action.
- (2) *Voting.* Voting shall be conducted as follows:
 - a. All members shall vote on each motion unless a member abstains because of a conflict of interest, or unless otherwise prohibited by law. Conflict of Interest forms shall be filed with the ZAB secretary when applicable.
 - b. All actions shall be taken by majority vote, a quorum being present.
 - c. A roll call vote shall be taken upon the request of any member.

(f) *Compensation, legal counsel, administrative staff.*

- (1) *Compensation.* Members shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for such travel, mileage and per diem expenses as may be authorized by the commission, or as otherwise provided by law.
- (2) *Legal counsel.* The commission shall appoint legal counsel to the ZAB.
- (3) *Administrative staff.* The commission shall provide clerical and administrative personnel, including a secretary, to the ZAB as may be reasonably required for the proper performance of its duties.

(Ord. No. 96-23, § 9, 12-16-96)

Sec. 13-204. Development review committee (DRC).

(a) *Establishment and purpose.* There is hereby established a development review committee (hereinafter referred to as DRC) whose principle function shall be to offer technical assistance on the requirements of the development code to interested parties, and to recommend to the commission on technical requirements related to proposed development in the county.